sandwiched in Fifth avenue between the brownstone residence of William H. Vanderbilt's widow and daughters and the more ornate granite home of Cornelius Vanderbilt, but she found ber quickest friends among the Astors, and they are confidently enumerated among her defenders in case of warfare. That means very powerful ailies. On the other hand, while Depew is new to this society, and the Vanderbilts themselves have not been in the swim many years, it would be difficult to decide whether he or Mrs. Whitney could marshal the more numerous or powerful host. The principal Vanderbilt brothers, Cornelius and William K., have brilliant wives, and both have planned a winter of singular festivity. The air is full of rumors of resplendent entertainments to be given by them. And they have counted Depew in. He has two lovely nieces, and they are expected to be initiated, through the Vanderbilts' influence, into the sacred circle. As to Mrs. Whitney, her luxurious home in New York has not at any time been abandoned during her Washington life. She and her busband have gyrated between New York and Washington, and already this winter she has given one fine reception here, to be followed, it is understood, by a succession of social occasions. These facts all bear upon the boycotting of Depew, in case Mrs. Whitney decides upon a crusade against him. There is one indication that she means fight. She did not invite the Depews to her first winter reception, although they had been her gueste on previous and similar occasions. Who knows that all this will not result in a division of the four hundred into two factions, each to aggregate quickly to as great a numeri-eal strength as the original body, and to destroy the mistaken notion that there is in New York one social clique above all the others? This showy Astor-Vanderbilt section of our people, with the processes of publicity at command, and a foremost desire to exploit itself in the eyes of the general public, is by no manner of means, except that of self-assertion, more exclusive than several other four hundreds in town. Indeed, they are less so. Let me prove this to you. There are any number of private entertain-ments given into which no outsider is for any reason whatever invited. Publicity is not desired. That is understood, and no news gathover makes any endeavor to destroy the seclusion—partly because it wouldn't be worth while, perhaps; but no matter for that.

Now, these Delmonico balls of the Patriarchs, and the Junior Patriarchs are professedly private affairs. The Delmonico establishment is used for convenience, but the dances are in theory private, as though given at a residence. Well, mixed in these assamblages are always a dozen or so of newspaper reporters. They are in faultless evening dress, they are ant to be polished young gentlemen, and, for a fact, are above the average of the company in culture, if not in wealth. But they are Toms, Dicks and Harrys, so far as the Patriarchs know, for they are whomsoever the city editors of the journals choose to send, in response to a formal invitation to do so. These young gentlemen are comox, they sit miscellaneously at the supper bles, and in every particular are treated the other guests. Therefore, to sum up th the nobs of "our best society," simply and ely for the sake of getting accounts of these

exclusive" balls into publication. Wherein does a Patriarchs' ball differ in aspect rom other well-dressed dancing occasions! Not any essential particular. The ball-room at lose women are in fine toilets, presents a handme spectacle. The expertly managed lights fall upon faces and clothes advantageously, and even those women who can lay no claim to good oks are apt to be so stylish in dress and deportment as to disarm criticism. While politeness is the rule, it is not distinctly enough so to distinguish the crowd. Men gather in groups at the doors, and encreach upon the dancing space, just as you have seen them at many a public ball. They stare at the dancers, comment in undertones upon the debutante girls, and so often get in the way of them that collisions are frequent. There is more than an hour of round dancing before supper is announced, and then comes a scramble such as everywhere, upon all sorts of occasions, characterizes the most cultured of men and women as animals who like to eat and drink. Supper is served at small tables that are placed very numerously in the restaurant, the ballways and even in the passages that lead to the public cafe. There is a confused and by no means gentle stampede for places, partiy by mainly with the idea that those get served first will be served.

The viands are very good, innico bill of fare, beginning with oysters misonn, including several kinds of choice with ices and parmeated liberally attle claret is drunk and a vast fast and as long as there is any demand for it. Young and old, male and female, drink the sparkling beverage with more or less recklessnees, and is it any wonder that even the most innocent of the debutantes, when they go back

A LUNCH WITH MRS. VANDERBILT.

to the ball-room to begin the regular quadrilles of the night, are notably bright-eyed, red-cheeked and vivacious? CLARA BELLE.

How the Wealthiest Widow in the World Spends Her Leisure Moments.

Special Correspondence Sunday Journal. NEW YORK, Dec. 14.- Undoubtedly Mrs. Vanderbilt, widow of the late William H. Vanderbilt, is the richest woman in America: perhaps, next to Queen Victoria, she is the richest widow in the world. Living almost alone, save for the large staff of servants which, with Mrs. Vanderbils and her son George, the only unmarried child, occupy the huge brown-stone palace corner of Fifth avenue and Fifty-first street, in many respects Mrs. Vanderbilt leads a very simple life, exactly as hundreds of other women who have not a hundredth part of her money. She breakfasts between 8 and 9 o'clock, the meal consisting of fruit, porridge, steak, chops or broiled chicken, warm rolls, tea and coffee. George Vanderbilt breakfasts with his mother so that she shall not be alone. Her luncheon is also a comparatively simple meal, but at dinner there is much ceremony, and there are usually guests. The dining-room is situated on the first floor, with windows looking out on Fifty-first street. There is an immense fireone end of the room, opposite the door leading from the Japanese room, which, by the way, has recently had a billiard table placed in the center. The dining-room is furnished with old oaken furniture. A buffet fills one entire side of the room, and on the other, between the windows, are large glass cabinets in which is the finest collection of old Sevres and other

other day the table was set for

inen napkin so folded as to show an embroidered monogram about an inch and a half square of the letters W. H. V. At the four corners of the table were tall single silver candlesticks, with pink candles and pink silk shades, and in front of these small silver dishes for bon bons. saited almonds, olives, etc. The glassware was finely cut and sparkled like diamonds, and on the buffet stood other specimens of cut glass, ready for use. It all shone like a colof huge gems. In the center table stood a large cutglass bowl of rare workmanship, filled with chrysanthemums from Mrs. Vandarbilt's own conservatory, which just now contains an immensely beautiful display of these autumnal flowers. Just outside the dining-room is a storeroom, with safes built into the wall. It also contains the butler's pantry. There is a balcony, with a wrought-iron railing, which extends around the room and five feet from the top. The safes on the lower range are with purple velvet fand contain large pieces of silver. There are silver punch-bowls, tankards, candlesticks, tureens, all exquisitely engraved, and of immense size. One safe contains only immense silver trays, and one tray especially large has a tipy railing an inch bigh surrounding it, and large showy handles. It is said to be the largest and finest engraved piece of silver-plate in the country. Another safe contains a solid gold dinner service and tall gold candlesticks. There are few people of royal blood who can excel in their table appointments this New York widow. In the balcony row of safes the smaller pieces of silver are kept; spoons of every kind and va-riety, ladles, knives, forks and small dishes. They are in gold, silver and platinum. One may very naturally ask what does so small a family as Mrs. Vanderbilt and her son George do with this immense amount of silver, glass and porcelain! As I have said, the dinner is the one ceremonious occasion of the day, and each day the butler is requested to set the table with an entirely different service of plate, glass and china. I do not say that there are three hundred and sixty-five of these sets, but there are enough to last for a long time before beginning over again. In this way Mrs. Vander-bilt learns that such of her possessions are in-

man to have charge of all these possessions, yet the butler of the family is that man, and he is required to give bonds as to his faithfulness.

He it is who holds the keys to all these safes and cabinets, and he is not only responsible for their safe keeping, but he is accountable for any breakage. The present butler has been in the family for some time, and previously held the same position with Oakes Ames, now Governor

The other apartments on this floor are three drawing-rooms leading into each other, on the Fifth-avenue side of the house. The first apartment on the left of the main entrance is finished in green, and is called the library. It has a large, open fire-place, and is in appearance a cheerful, luxurious room, yet it is seldom used by the family. It is a gloomy place for the widow, as her busband was stricken with death in this room during the memorable conference with Mr. Robert Garrett, who is himself worse than dead, being confined in barred rooms at his place in Ringwood, New Jersey. It is said that Mr. Garrett's insanity dates from the shock he received when his friend, William H. Vanderbilt, apparently in full possession of health and strength, dropped dead before him.

The next apartment is the princial drawingroom, and, of course, contains everything in the way of costly brie-a brac of which it is possible to conceive. The walls are covered with crushed strawberry velvet caught down by large colored glass medallions cut to look like huge rubies, emeralds and opals. The main hall is very large, containing an immense fireplace, and, with its heavy carving and winding staircase leading to the floor above, looks like a part of some mediaval castle. An objective point in this hall is a life-size portait of Mrs. Vanderbilt by Sargent. It is an excellent likeness in a sitting posture, the costume being a fashionable dinner dress of black silk relieved by colored silk at the throat, down the vest front and at the sleeves in rich white lace. Mrs. Vanderbilt is tall and slender, and wears her hair in a large coil, coming high upon her head. The front hair is parted in the center, and brought down in set waves, in what are called bandoline scallops. She has a quiet, ladylike air, and is the daughter of a clergyman, Mr. Kissam, who was not a rich man, but one of cultivation, who is discerned at all times in Mrs. Vanderbilt. All the sleeping apartments are on the upper

floor as also a sunny sitting room where Mrs. Vanderbilt passes her forenoons. Just now she is out every forenoon buying Christmas presents for her sons and daughters and hosts of grandchildren of whom she is very fond. She gives large sums to charities, but these she gives through other hands for the most part as she is not very strong of late years. She goes into no society except to make informal calls on old and intimate friends, and to visit at the houses of her children, all of whom live within a stone's throw. This is the daily life of the richest American widow. It is generally supposed that at her death the great Vanderbilt collection of paintings will be given to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and that a wing of the building will be built to receive them, in order to keep the collection intact, the same as was done in the case a singular thing, but the Vanderbilt collection does not contain one canvas by the old masters. Mr. Vanderbilt did not believe in them, possibly did not appreciate them, but he took great pleasure in the works of modern artists, and before his death became quite a connoisseur. His collection of modern paintings is one of the finest BETSY O'DOWD. in the world.

Little Johnts's Chrismus. We got it up spurpose, jes' fer little Johnts, you His mother was so pore and all, and had to manage

Jes' bein' a war-widder, and her pension mighty slim, She'd take in weavin', er work out, er anything fer

And little Johnts was puny-like-but law! the nerve You'd want to kindo' pity him, but couldn't, very His pants o' army-blanket and his coat o' faded blue Kep' hintin' of his father like, and pity wouldn't do! So we collogued together, one't, one wintertime 'at Jes' me and Mother and the girls, and Wilse, John-

Jack and Free-Would jine and git up little Johnts, by time 'at Chris mus come, Some sorto' doin's, don't you know, 'at would su'prise

An so, all on the quiet, Mother she turns in and gits Some blue-janes—cuts and makes a suit; and then sets down and knits A pair o' little galluses to go 'long with the rest— And puts in a red-flannen back, and buckle on the

The little feller be'n so much around our house, you And be'n sich he'p to her and all, and handy as could be, 'At Mother couldn't do too much fer little Johnts-She ust to jes' declare 'at "he was meat-and-drink

And Piney, Lide, and Madaline they watched their chance and rid To Fountaintown with Lijey's folks; and bought a book, they did,
O' fairly-tales, with pictur's in; and got a little pair
O' red-top boots 'at John-Jack said he'd be'n a-pricen

And Lide got him a little sword, and Madaline, a And shootin'-crackers-lawzy-day! and they're so dan-And Piney, ever' time the rest would buy some other She'd take and turn in then and buy more candy fer

Well, thinks-says I, when they get back, your pocket-But little Johnts was there hisse'f that afternoon,

Well, all of us kep' mighty mum, tel we got him away By teliin' him be shore and come to-morroy—Christ-

And fetch his mother long with him! And how he seud acrost The fields—bis tow-head, in the dusk, jes' like a streak His comfert fluttern as he run-and old lige, don't you know, A-jumpin' high fer rabbits and a-plowin' up the snow!

It must a-be'n most 10 that night afore we got to With Wilse and John-Jack he'ppin' us; and Freeman in the shed.

And Lide out with the lantern while he trimmed a Chrismus-tree Out of a little scrub-oak top 'at suited to a t

All night I dreamp' o' hearing things a-skulkin' round And "Old Kriss," with his whiskers off and freckles on his face-And reindeers, shaped like shavin'-hosses at the A stickin' down the chimbly, with their heels out at

By time 'at Mother got meup 'twas plum daylight and The front yard full o' neighbers all a-crowdin' round With Johnts's mother leadin'; yes-and little Johnts Set upon Freeman's shoulder, like a jug upon the

Of course I can't describe it when they all got in to We'd conjered up the Christmas-tree and all the fixin's Fer all the shouts o' laughture-clappin' hands, and crackin' jokes, Was heap o' kissin' goin' on amongst the womeneight people, and the service was of Dresden china. On each plate was a large white

> Fer. lo-behold-ye! there they had that young-un-And A-wobblin'-like; -and, shore enough, at last he started And-sich another bellerin' in all my mortal days I never heerd, er 'spect to hear, in woe's app'nted

And Mother grabs him up and says: "It's more'n he It's all too suddent fer the child, and too su'prisin'!-"Oh, no it ain't"-sobbed little Johnts-"I ain't su'prised-but I'm A-cryin' cause I watched you all and knowed it all the

-James Whitcomb Riley, in Christmas Book Buyer, The Majority.

They are forever hidden from our sight!

How fare they all, they of the pallid faces, Beyond our power to beckon their return! How is it with them in the shadow places! How shall we learn Their solemn secret! How can we discover, By any earnest seeking, the true way Unto the knowing in what realm they hover, In what high day.
Or in what sombre shadows of the night

We question vainly. Yet it somehow pleases, When they have spoken the last good-bye, It somehow half the pain of parting eases, That in the sky. In the vast solitudes of stars and spaces, There may be consciousness, and life, and hope, And that when we must yield to death's embraces. For the unfolding of the better powers

So sadly stifled in this life of ours. Tell Me Some Way. Oh, you who love me not, tell me some way Whereby I may forget you for a space; Nay, clean forget you and your lovely face-Yet well I know how vain this prayer I pray. All weathers hold you. Can I make the May Forbid her boughs blow white in every place! Or rob June of her rose that comes apace! Cheat of their charm the eider months and gray! Ave, were you dead, you could not be forgot: So sparse the bloom along the lanes would be: Such sweetness out the briery hedges fled; My tears would fall that you had loved me not; And bitterer tears that you had gone from me; Living, you break my heart; so would you dead

-Lizette Woodworth Reese, in the Christmas Scrib-

READING FOR THE SABBATH.

Sunday-School Lesson for Dec. 23, 1888. RUTH'S CHOICE-Ruth i, 16-22. Golden Text—Thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.—Ruth i, 16.

The Book of Ruth is one of the sweetest and most beautiful pastoral poems ever written, and gives a description of one of the most charming characters of the Bible. Neither the author nor the date of the times described are certain, but it is generally located about the time of Gideon, and is supposed to have been written by Samuel or Hezekiah with the purpose of fixing the descent of David and describing the more common and quiet home life of the poople. Keil places Ruth in the time of Gideon (B. C. 1222-1182) fixing it from the birth of David (B. C. 1085], the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, who was a son of Ruth. Elimelech and his wife Naomi, with their two sons, leave Bethlehem on account of "the famine," the one probably caused by the Midianite seven-year invasions, and go down into Moab to live, a country just over the Jordan on the east and southeast of the Dead Sea. Here the sons marry and die, leaving their widows, Ruth and Orpah. Elimelech had also died, and Naomi turns her thoughts backward to her early home among her own people. Then comes the beautiful story of Ruth and her purpose to accompany her mother-in-law back to Bethlehem. Naomi tells her of the dangers and the difficulties of the venture, but fails to discourage her. At this point the lesson begins. With this story of Ruth we pass from the warlike spirit, the debasing heathen worship, the sen-suous life of the Book of Judges, to scenes of quiet, happy homes, of noble self-sacrifice, of purest religion, of chastity and goodness, that would grace any age of the church. Naomi-meaning "God is sweet"-indicates by her name something of her own mother and the home in which she was piously nurtured.

of insisting on her son's wife accompanying her, as was her right, to her own home and country -to care for her declining years, to be her sole support, the daughter of the house; instead of insisting upon her natural authority, she acted with singular nobleness and self-denial. Stripped of all comfort she would go home alone. The future was dark and full of woful be a delightful pres-She was utterly lonely. Mothers-in-law are an ent to any lady to he abused race. If there are any who think more used as a jewel casket for themselves than their acquired children, then Naomi's example is well worth careful notice and copy. Yet filial duty is as important as the maternal. Love naturally descends, and when the rule is reversed and the young care for the aged who have outlived their friends and contemporaries then devotion becomes transcendent. Ruth's position was even harder than Naomi's. Naomi was now well used to loss and secession. Her beloved ones had left her one after another. Had Ruth gone too, it would have been but one more. Ruth not only gave up her people, her religion, but all possibility of worldly prospects. She barred herself from any future wedded happiness. Her lot henceforth was Naomi and poverty. The romance of love gave way before the stern resolve of duty. The care of her hus-band's mother was dearer to her than inde-This is indeed a lesson. Unselfishness in the

WHAT THE LESSON TEACHES.

family, care for those whose blood and nerves have been spent-nay, whose very comfort has been thrown to the winds-that you might be living and happy is better than one hour's personal ease while they who loved you are in misery. When love ascends as well as descends, then the harvest is at hand. It was the example of Naomi that made Ruth eager to become a proselyte. The Christ-like one need not beg for converts. Example will draw them fast enough. The trouble will be in weeding out the unworthy ones. Ruth's purpose was as irrevolume and strength until it reach the open sea of accomplishment. Affliction changes some so that friends hardly recognize them. "Is this Naomi?" Are we the same after bereavement as before? God grant not, but more purified; not bitter in heart, but cheerful in our resolve to be steadfast to the end. A full life is a happy life. It does not always mean a family life with children. Unfortunately, children do not always bring happiness; but their mission is to increase love, even though it increases poverty, too. Their first happiness after bereavement began with their gleaning in the barley field. Are you sorrowful! Then work. Sorrow will be mitigated the sooner; you will be the happier.

Personal and News Notes. Boston will have a Methodist hospital. Bishop Joyce has gone to Chattanooga, Tenn.,

Dr. Pentecost is conducting successful evangelistic meetings in Scotland. Bishop William Taylor sailed, last week, for his great African diocese. A band of mission-aries will join him in London.

It is stated that 21,000 Bibles were sold at the Glasgow exhibition, where the National Bible Society of Scotland had a stall.

A Methodist preacher in Tennessee once di vided his discourse into three parts: First, will-ability; second, do-ability; third, stick-abil-

Dr. Boyd Vincent, who has been elected assistant bishop for the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio, will be consecrated at Cincinpati Jan. 25.

The late Thomas Branch, of Virginia, who was a leading layman of the Methodist Epis-copal Church, South, left by his will \$15,000 to the missionary society of that church.

New York city, recently, to arrange for short religious services in the churches throughout the country on the morning of April 30, 1889, the day of the inauguration of Washington.

The Jews of Philadelphia have laid the corper-stone of an extension of the Jewish Hospital on the York road, Philadelphia, intended as a home for the aged of the race and faith; it will cost \$100,000, nearly all of which is subscribed. Cardinal Newman, who lies ill at the Oratory.

n Birmingham, inhabits two rooms, one of which is his study, and the other his bedroom. No visitors are allowed to enter his apartments, but the Fathers have free access to their superior at any time. The Church Extension Society of the Method-

ist Episcopal Church received for the year ending Oct. 31, 1888, \$125,448 from conference collections and \$38,209 from other sources. The donations to churches amounted to \$117,255, and \$99,225 was granted in loans. The duty of ministers to urge on Christian families the importance of being abundantly sup-

plied with pure literature becomes more manifest every year. The destitution of many wellto-do Christian homes in this particular is astonishing .- New York Christian Advocate. The Freedmen's board of the Presbytorian Church, working among the colored people of

the South, received from all sources, last year, \$131,653.35. In its last report it notes an addition to the churches under its care of 1,210 members, and a total of 16,661 communicants. Its six educational institutions, not to speak of other incipient enterprises, are full and overflowing.

The heroes of mankind are the mountains, the highlands of a moral world. They diversify its monotony, they furnish the watershed of its history, as the Grampians, or the Alps, or the Andes, which tower over the lowlands and fertilize the plains and divide the basin of the world of nature. They are the 'full-welling fountain-heads of change," as well as the serene heights of repose .- Dean Stauley.

The woes of the Bible are uniformly denounced against disobedience, while its promises are as uniformly addressed to the righteous and the obedient. The God of the Bible does not propose to deal with the two classes in the same way. Those make a great mistake in their view of God, who regard Him as indifferent to the moral character of His creatures. This is not true either in this life or in that which is to come. -New York Independent.

> My spirit bows in gratitude Before the Giver of all good, Who fashioned so the human mind That from the waste of time behind A simple stone, or mound of earth, Can summon the departed forth.

Things nameless! which, in passing, so Do shake us with a subtle grace, We say, "Who passes?" They are dumb. We cannot see them go or come. Their touches fall soft, cold, as snow Upon a blind man's face.

Yet, touching, so they draw above

Our daily joy and pain advance Our human love-O mortal love! That light is not its own.

Our common thoughts to heaven's unknown;

Presbyterian and Congregational Churches of | but Dan considers it well worth \$5, so is \$1 50

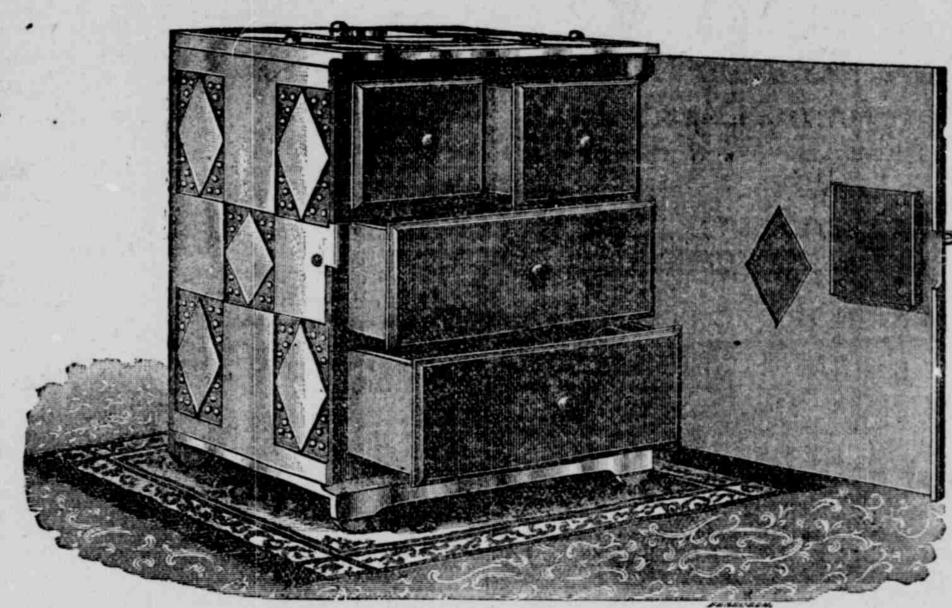
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Is to each and every customer who buys of us during this month of December a Suit or Overcoat costing \$15 or over, an

Elegant Nickle-plated Safe, Naomi was a model mother-in-law. Instead | containing four velvet-lined drawers. ers, Yale lock, and weighing 81 pounds. It makes a charming ornament, and would or as a repository for valuables or keep-



OTHER presents we suggest to you to BUY out of our GENTLE-MEN'S FURNISHING DEPARTMENT, consist of a magnificent line of CASHMERE and SILK MUFFLERS, of the newest and handsom\* est shades and patterns; GLOVES, lined and unlined; SUSPENDERS. HOSIERY, UNDER-WEAR from the lowest priced to the finest; NECKWEAR of all kinds; GOLD and SIL-VER-HANDLED SILK UMBRELLAS. etc., etc.

### MEN'S \$15 SUITS.

An enormous stock of \$15 Suits in Cassimeres-mixtures Corkscrews, etc.

During this week our Store will be open every night until 9 o'clock.

## MEN'S \$15 OVFRCOATS.

Overcoats in Fur Beavers; Chinchillas; Meltons and Kerand Stripes-in Sacks and Cutaway Frocks, Prince Albert, seys, in light and dark shades; Corkscrews; Blue and Black Beavers, etc.

## unworthy ones. Ruth's purpose was as irresistible as an inundation. Dam it up with arguments, and it bursts forth with renewed energy. That is the kind of a purpose we should have through life. Let it have one goal. All counter-currents should be used to increase its

Nos. 5 & 7 West Washington Street.

Japan, which seems to have been occasioned by an apprehension on the part of the Congregationalists that they were likely to be virtually swallowed up in a body which might ultimately be made a synod under the General Assembly in this country. The prudential committee of the American board has recommended delaying the final action on union, and it is probable that the whole matter will be thoroughly studied in all its aspects before any more steps are taken.

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

Of the 200 goldbeaters of New York not one is a woman, while of the 900 goldentters not one is

A hen which is said to have hatched and raised sixteen chickens from fifteen eggs is one of the curiosities of Withlacooche, Fla. A cow broke into a Brookiyn oyster-dealer's establishment, last Monday night, and devoured eight quarts of raw oysters before she was dis-

A Maryland paper asserts that a sportsman, while out gunning near Barnewille, shot a partridge out of a hawk's mouth and did not injure Mrs. Haynes, of Albany, Ga., gave birth to

twins on Monday. She now his nine children, while she is not yet twenty years of age. She single children. A Key West fisherman has captured a turtle weighing 1,600 pounds, the largest ever seen.

The old fellow was broad emugh on the back for six men to stand on him, and he could have floated off with a ton of coal. It is said that salmon are crowded so closely together in some of the creeks in Alaska, that they can hardly move and can be picked out of

the water by hand. In one case one draught of a seine brought to shore 2,500 salmon. Nelson Clark, of Vanceboro, Me., while hunting for deer a few miles south of that place, succeeded in shooting a white doe, much larger than the average red deer and of a rare species. The hair was of a spotless white and very fine

Several years ago a coal mine in Japan took fire and forty or fifty miners were entombed. Recently the mouth of the pit was opened, and on searching the bodies of the victims were discovered. By the action of waier they had been converted into stone.

W. J. Norris, of Wetumpka, Ga., has a flat-tened ball taken from a pine iree. It was imbedded eight inches deep in the heart of a large pine tree which has been dead nearly fifteen years, and the best judges think it may have lain there for a hundred years or more.

Two sparrows have their home in court-room No. 1, at Norristown, Pa., and the monotony of the Criminal Court was last week varied by the twittering of the birds and their constant fluttering about in flagrant contempt of the tribunal in whose presence they are estirely at home.

J. R. Boggs, of Lexington, Ga., has a monstrosity in the shape of a three-legged chicken. The third limb comes from the body between the two usual ones, and is about as large, but it stands out behind the fowl and does not seem to bother it any. The chick is now several weeks

George Carpenter, of East Kent, Conp., when out hunting coons came upos a wildeas caught in a trap. He walked up to kill the animal, and the cat by a mighty effect broke from the trap and fell upon him toots and claw. The conflict was flerce, but at length Kent killed the cat, which weighed twenty-five pounds. A hawk dived into a lot o' ducks in a cove on

Moosehead lake. He got his claws into one. and, together, they disappeared under water. It was more than a minute before the hawk rose to the surface, nearly drowned, and, with a labored effort, he got away, not, however, until other ducks tried to force him again under The Portland Oregonian has discovered the

species of fish that swallowed Jonah. A specimen was sent over to Portland from Yagurah, which was nearly all head. Its ears were situated at the back of its neck and its mouth extended from ear to ear. It was known as the Cutlus cod, and, according to the Oregonian, was evidently made to eat rather than to be Probably the only man in Portland, Ore.,

who found enough in his Thanksgiving turkey

to pay for it was Dan J. Moore, of the Pioneer wood-yard. He paid \$3.50 for a nice big turkey, and when the Chinaman wasdressing it he remarked, "Turkey heap rich, and exhibited a five-dollar piece which he had found in its gizzard. The coin was worn rather thin from the friction with the gravel which all well-regu-There has been a hitch in the union of the lated turkeys use as a specife for indigestion,

ahead on his turkey. It is better to be born lucky than rich.

Sir John Lubbock has demonstrated the curious fact that certain kinds of ants are unable to exist without keeping other ants as slaves, though why this is so he has not found out. On removing the slaves from a nest of fifty slaveholding ants he found that the latter immediately began to die off, and were speedily reduced in number to six. When the slaves were returned the mortality ceased.

A company has been formed in Georgia to scrape the entire bed of the Chestattee river with dredges. It has always been known that the bed of this river is wonderfully rich in loose gold, and the company proposes to get the gold. Just after the war another company attempted to accomplish the same purpose by fluming the river, but it cost so much that the enterprise was abandoned. The present company will build an expensive dredging boat, capable of re-

moving 500 tons a day. George Thayer, a farmer living at Parish, N. Y., found that something was killing his ducks, and he set up a trap for coons. 'There were no results, and he set three traps around a dead duck. Next morning he found an owl with a trap on each leg and the other one attached to another part of the bird's body. The marauder's wings measured six feet from tip to tip, and his head was twice as large as a cat's. Mr. Thayer him chained up in the barn, and is feeding him all the delacacies of the season.

A Nyack lady put the cream of several days' milkings from her pet Jersey cow in a thick cloth one day last summer, and as it was too warm to churn, placed the bag in the ground in a cool place, throwing a shovel full of earth over it, so that puss could not get at it. and left it there until she came home the next day.
When she took the bag from the ground she found the cream had turned into a great yellow lump of butter, and the only thing left for her to do was to salt and mark it. Horses on one of the Canadian mail routes are

provided with snow-shoes. It would be impossible for them to travel over the deep snows without their aid. A horse that is accustomed to wearing them will travel five and six miles an hour where it would be impossible to go that distance in a week without them. The shoes are made of thin steel plate, about nine by eleven inches, fastened on the hoofs with claups. The horses are shod with long heel corks, which go through the snow-shoes and prevent their slipping going up and down hill. James McCloud owns a horse on his Dakota farm which has eight feet. It is perfectly formed in all respects, except that it has eight feet. Not until the pastern or fetlock joint is reached in the descent from the shoulder to the foot is there any apparent difference between this horse and any other. But at the pastern joint, or lower end of the shin bone, the branch begins, and two perfectly-formed feet are found on each of the four legs. The horse runs on the rauge the same as any and as fast as most of them, and all eight feet are shod, or may be if

A Berkshire, Eng., farmer has just lost a valuable cart colt from a most extraordinary cause. The colt had for a long time suffered very much from difficulty of breathing. An operation having been performed on its throat to no purpose, it was finally decided to have it shot. On the carcass being cut up and the neck severed at the shoulders, to the great astonishment of those present, a fairsized toad crawled out of the opening in the windpipe, and the extraordinary cause of the poor animal's sufferings became at once apparent. The toad was almost red when extricated, but gradually assumed its natural color.

A traveler in South Africa tells of a singular combat that he witnessed. He was musing one morning, with his eyes on the ground, when he noticed a caterpillor crawling along at a rapid pace followed by hundreds of small ants. Being quicker in their movements, the ante would catch up with the caterpillar, and one would mount his back and bite him. Pausing, the caterpillar would turn his head and bite the ant and kill his tormentor. After slaughtering a dozen or more of his persecutors the caterpillar showed signs of fatigue. The ants made a combined attack. Betaking himself to a stalk of grass, the caterpillar climbed up tail first, followed by the ants. As one approached he seized it in his jaws and threw it off the stalk. The ants, seeing that the caterpillar had too strong a position for them to overcome, resorted to strategy. They began sawing through the grass stalk. In a few moments the stalk fell, and hundreds of ants pounced upon the caterpillar. He was killed at once.

Speed of Vessels. It is gratifying to compare the speeds of the English and German vessels that are at the en-Well Supplies. 197 and 199 South Meridianst.

present moment blocksding the African coast. The Germans have not only the fastest ships in the two squadrons, but they have five ships of 13 knots and upwards against one on our side (the Boadices, 13.5). The average speed of the seven English ships is 10.9 knots; that of the seven German, 12.9. The fastest ship in the blockading squadron is the Italian Dogali, which is put down at 18.5 knots. Even the Portuguese have two gunboats several knots faster than anything we can show. The worst point about it is that the German superiority in point of speed is supported by a corresponding advantage in men and guns. In tonnage alone have we the superiority, and I don't know what

Sectarianism Will Not Be Tolerated. Philadelphia Inquirer.

that goes for when it comes to fighting.

Whenever a question of keeping American politics, and particularly the management of American schools, free from any dangerous sectarian influences arises the American people may be trusted to settle it. The question was raised in the Boston election for school commissioners, and the result is the overwhelming defeat of every candidate suspected of being tainted with sectarianism.

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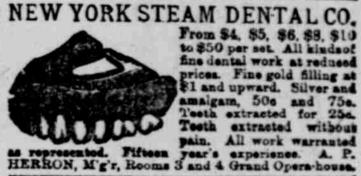
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